

IDENTIFICATION: A small herbaceous plant, the Harperella (*Ptilimnium nodosum*) has narrow, quill-like leaves up to 16 inches long growing from the base of the plant, becoming shorter as they get higher on the stem. The flowers are small and inconspicuous in June and July and the plant dies back each year. It grows on rocky banks and shoals near creek beds. Other plants growing in association with Harperella include azalea, mountain laurel and holly.

FORESTRY CONSIDERATIONS: Forestry activities are not likely to occur where this plant grows if Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry are followed. If operations are planned, include extra wide streamside management zones to prevent siltation. Thinnings and harvest should be done under the supervision of someone familiar with the plant. As always, broadcast use of herbicides should be done in accordance with label instructions.



DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY: Currently found only in Cherokee and Dekalb counties. Photo and Text Credit: Threatened and Endangered Species of Alabama: A Guide to Assist with Forestry Activities, Second Edition, USFS.

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